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ISLANDER

2008 ANNUAL REPORT
TOWN OF NEW CASTLE
NEW HAMPSHIRE

WWW.NEWCASTLENH.ORG

PHOTO CREDIT

All the beautiful pictures in this 2008 town report were taken by Jim Cerny. His efforts to capture the town and residents through his photography have become renowned and admired by all. On behalf of the entire town, thank you Jim for your marvelous photos.

Jim Cerny is an enthusiastic digital photographer, with New Castle as a major source of scenery. For more information about prints of these photographs or other photographs of the Seacoast, contact him at jimcerny2@gmail.com.

The punt and flowers on the front cover was given through donations and labor of Mr. & Mrs. John Appleton, Mr. & Mrs. Bob Beecher, Mr. & Mrs. Sugden Murphy, Mr. & Mrs. John Payzant, Mr. & Mrs. Ned Robinson, and Mr. & Mrs. Tom Wilcox.



Annual Report
For the Town of New Castle
Fiscal Year 2007-2008

The 2008 Annual Town Report Is Dedicated To

THE NEW CASTLE EMPLOYEES POLICE/FIRE/EMTS/PUBLIC WORKS RESIDENTS & VOLUNTEERS



The Town of New Castle is extremely pleased to dedicate this report to the people who comprise the volunteer fire department, EMT squad, full time police, fire departments, public works and all others who assisted during the 2008 ice storm. Their outstanding job during the power outage starting on December 11th deserves our recognition, as they worked tirelessly around the clock with total selflessness. They went beyond the call of duty to help provide assistance to the residents during this emergency. These capable volunteers and employees worked endless hours to provide help with great compassion, and services to the people of New Castle. We owe them a debt of gratitude and our endless praise for a job well done.

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N. H. STATE LIBRARY

MAY 24 2010

CONCORD, NH



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Selectmen's Letter

2008 seemed to extend 2007 as issues that we reported on for that year continued into this year.

The Historical Society renewed their lease with the Town for another 5 years, after much hard work to finalize their plans for interior use. Unfortunately, the building was vandalized and valuable and historical artifacts were stolen and/or damaged. This brought home to all of us the need to watch our homes and neighborhoods.

The Energy Committee, chaired by Sandra Bisset, attracted many new members who contributed valuable time and energy to assist in assessing the needs of Town buildings and the impact of making energy efficient improvements for cost savings. This Committee also worked tirelessly, over the year, with the Building Expansion Committee and the new Building Complex Committee. Many of their suggestions have been implemented into plans for present and future adoption.

Bids were received for the proposed rehabilitation of the fire department building incorporating both Police and Fire Departments. Ricci Construction Company and TMS Architects were chosen to begin working with the Board and Police and Fire Chiefs. At Town Meeting and at a special BOS meeting convened in June final plans, costs and recommendations were presented to residents by the Board of Selectmen. After discussion and review, there remained questions regarding many issues of importance to residents. The BOS rescinded their proposal of a building rehabilitation and decided to look at other options. The Board thanked the Building Expansion Committee members Russ Cox, Dave Merrill, Dan Hughes, Eric Katz and Edward Kelly, for all of their time and efforts in working with the BOS to review building and construction needs with Ricci Construction Co. and TMS Architects.

The BOS continued development of plans for this much needed complex and appointed Eric Katz, Chair to establish a new Building Complex Committee. The BOS, cognizant of the issues raised by residents, requested certain guidelines, i.e., seven members, consisting of the Police and Fire Chiefs, Eric Katz and 4 other residents with knowledge of municipal building development and/or construction to work independently of the BOS, to have all meetings noticed and open to the public for comment and to give their final report to the Selectmen by mid December. The Committee worked tirelessly, consulted Town boards and individual residents and presented their report in December. After review and public discussion, the Selectmen accepted their final recommendations, selected dates to present their findings results at special meetings before and during Town Meeting in May. The BOS extend their thanks to Eric Katz, Jim Murphy and Dave Blanding, the Police and Fire Chiefs, David McGuckin, Jeff Hughes, Tom Smith and Susan Oliver Whitney for their final product - a new building with a life expectancy of 50-100 years, and meets the needs and requirements, both present and future, of the Departments and the Town.

The BOS welcomed our new State Representative, Will Smith, and continues to work with both of our State Representatives on issues pertinent to New Castle.

The Board still continues to work with Howard Crosby and SafePath to develop plans for a walkway from the Hotel to the Common. Unfortunately, costs have increased dramatically from the date the State awarded the contract in 2004 to the present. At this time the project is still under review.

New Castle was host to the NH 5th Regiment Volunteers who identified, found and rehabilitated the burial stone of John Murray, a Civil War Veteran and Captain in the NH Company "D" 5th, who died in 1862 at the Battle of Fredericks and is buried at Riverside Cemetery. Chris Bennedetto of the NH 5th worked with the Town to promote and provide an encampment at Bicentennial Park at Town Hall, and a parade to Riverside with full-size flag replicas and authentic equipment and infantry uniform dress on Flag Day, June 14th. The 3rd Regiment of Vermont joined the NH 5th and approximately 30 volunteers participated in the event. Andy White, who is a descendent of John Murray and who has many of his artifacts, assisted the 5th in their preparations. The Historical Society opened on that day to compliment the celebrations and Mrs. Marion Rowe, holder of the Boston Post Cane participated in the parade. Thanks to all who made this event so memorable.

Other areas that the Selectmen addressed during 2008 were the following:

- o An updated and approved Personnel Policy Manual, which provides guidance to Town employees and the Board and reflects local, state and federal laws and requirements.
- o The appointment of Dr. Gordon Hand as a voting member of the New Castle Board of Health. Dr. Hand will assist Dr. Jim Zuckerman with his duties as the New Castle Board of Health Officer.
- o The appointments of Fire Chief Dave Blanding as the Town's Emergency Management Director and Brad Meade as Assistant Emergency Management Director. They will be involved with area preparation for emergencies, i.e., evacuations, nuclear disasters, vaccines, etc. (Please review the Emergency Management Guidelines enclosed with your Town Report.)
- o Approved the New Castle Garden Club's conceptual plans to redesign landscaping around the Recreation Building. This is a 4 - 5 year project, done as a gift to the Town and will be financed through major fundraising by the Club. Our thanks to the Club for undertaking this project and for all of the ongoing projects they support to make New Castle so enjoyable.
- o The Common Building continues to be a popular place for residents, non-profit groups and combined Rye-New Castle events for school children and adult recreation. Reservations are still required and continue to grow.
- o Approved the redevelopment and implementation of the Town's new and updated website. The Board hired Chet Lang, a New Castle resident to do this project and to provide training to employees.

- o Discussed and approved merging the positions of Town Clerk and Tax Collector into one, three-year elected position to provide better service and to allow for more hours for residents to do their business. (This will be a warrant article at Town Meeting on 5/12/09.)
- o Approved fundraising events for Friends of Portsmouth Harbor Lighthouse to help maintain the lighthouse located in New Castle.
- o Approved a Memorandum of Agreement between the Town and the University of New Hampshire to better facilitate communications and discussion of issues which might arise between residents and UNH. The University will be providing news of their endeavors to New Castle through Island Items. If residents have questions, please check with the Selectmen or Police Department for proper channels of communications.

Our thanks to the Ft. Stark Brigade for their efforts in cleaning up and improving the Fort and its landscaping. We now have a beautiful and safe location to visit and enjoy the scenic vistas.

Also our thanks to the Conservation Commission for planning the Town's Green Waste days, and in particular to Curt Gillespie for chairing and soliciting help for this event. Thanks also go to Dave McGuckin and to our Dept. of Public Works members, Brad Meade and Chris Pufahl for their assistance at the Green Waste Day site.

Island Items will no longer be mailed to residents but will be posted on our website www.newcastlenh.org, along with other important Town news and information. If you are not able to download Island Items or need specific information, please call or come into Town Hall and copies will be made for you. Island Items will continue to be delivered, only in May, along with the Town Report.

As the year began to wind down, New Castle, along with many areas of the State and region, was hit with a very damaging ice storm in December, leaving the Town without power and phones for up to 3 days. All of New Castle came together to help and support the Fire, Police and Public Works Departments. Assistance was provided by Town officials, volunteers and residents who gave of their time and hard work to make sure every resident was safe and cared for. The names are too numerous to list here, but know that we thank you and appreciate what you did to carry the Town through this storm.

Last, but not least, the Selectmen thank all of the employees, volunteers and members of Town boards for their tireless efforts on the Town's behalf. We receive many compliments from residents and along with residents wish to pass on our gratitude and appreciation for all that you do for the Town.

New Castle Board of Selectmen
 Chairwoman Gene Doherty
 Selectman Peter Gamester
 Selectman Lorn Buxton

New Hampshire Elected Officials

NATIONAL

Senator Judd Gregg	Senator Jeanne Shaheen	Rep. Carol Shea-Porter
New Hampshire Office	New Hampshire Office	New Hampshire Office
125 North Main Street	1589 Elm St., Suite 3	104 Washington Street
Concord, NH 03301	Manchester, NH 03101	Dover, NH 03820
603-225-7115	603-647-7500	603-743-4813

STATE

Governor	Executive Councilor	State Senator
John Lynch	Beverly Hollingworth	Martha Fuller Clark
State House	209 Winnacunnet Road	152 Middle Street
25 Capitol Street	Hampton, NH 03842	Portsmouth, NH 03802
Concord, NH 03301	603-926-4880	603-271-6333
603-271-2121		

Representative	Representative
David A. Borden	Will Smith
PO Box 167	PO Box 808
New Castle, NH 03854	New Castle, NH 03854
603-436-4132	603-436-6865

FULL TIME TOWN EMPLOYEES

David Blanding	-	Fire Chief/police patrolman
Steve Blanding	-	Police patrolman
Pamela Cullen	-	Secretary/Tax Collector
Brad Meade	-	Supr. of Public Works
James Murphy	-	Police Chief
Chris Pufahl	-	Public works
Lynn Seward	-	Accountant
Donald White	-	Police Lieutenant
Mark Wooley	-	Fire Captain
Chet Lang	-	Part time police officer

Town Officers--Elected/Appointed (May 2008 to May 2009)

Town Clerk	Priscilla Hodgkins	term exp 5/09
Assistant Town Clerk	Carol Gamester	indef appt
Selectmen	Gene Doherty, Chr	term exp 5/09
	Lorn Buxton	term exp 5/10
	Peter Gamester	term exp 5/11
Treasurer	William B. Marshall, III	term exp 5/09
Deputy Treasurer	Jennifer Roediger	indef appt
Collector of Taxes	Pamela P. Cullen	term exp 5/09
Deputy Tax Collector	Carol Gamester	indef appt
Chief of Police	James C. Murphy	indef appt
Police Lieutenant	Donald White Jr.	indef appt
Patrolman	David Blanding	indef appt
Patrolman	Steven Blanding	indef appt
Patrolman	Chester Lang	part time
Animal Control Officer	Donald White Jr.	indef appt
Building Inspector	Charles Petlick	indef appt
Assistant Bldg Insp	F. Andrew Schulte	indef appt
Supt. of Public Works	Brad Meade	indef appt
Road Agent	Brad Meade	appt exp 5/09
Town Moderator	Wayne Semprini	term exp 5/09 (appt for 1 yr)
Health Officer	Dr. James Zuckerman	state appt
Deputy Health Officer	Dr. William Hand	state appt
Fire Chief	David Blanding	appt
Fire Wards	Peter Rice	term exp 5/09
	Reginald Whitehouse	term exp 5/10
	James Murphy	term exp 5/11
Public Works Board	Walter Liff, Chr.	appt exp 5/09
	Normand Houle	appt exp 5/09
	John Ireland	appt exp 5/10
	Walter Glidden	appt exp 5/10
Alternate	Reginald Whitehouse	appt exp 5/11
Alternate	Chester Fessenden	appt exp 5/10
Ex-Officio/Selectman	Peter Gamester	term exp 5/11
Planning Board	Michael Colotti, Chr.	appt exp 5/11
	Stuart Levenson	appt exp 5/09
	David Merrill	appt exp 5/10
	Patty Cohen	appt exp 5/10
	Mark Connolly	appt exp 5/11
	Ned Robinson	appt exp 5/09
Alternate	Haden Gerrish	appt exp 5/10
Alternate	June Kulakowski	appt exp 5/11
Ex-Officio/Selectman	Gene Doherty	term exp 5/09
Board of Adjustment	Susan Stetson, Chr.	appt exp 5/11
	Janet Harrigan	appt exp 5/10

	Russell Cox	appt exp 5/10
	Donald Moore	appt exp 5/09
	Will Smith	appt exp 5/11
Planning Board Rep	Ned Robinson	appt exp 5/09
Alternate	Mark Gardner	appt exp 2010
Historic District Committee	Nancy Borden, Chr.	appt exp 5/09
	Richard Yeaton	appt exp 5/10
	Elaine Nollet	appt exp 5/10
	Marjorie Smith	appt exp 5/10
Alternate	Peter Follansbee	appt exp 5/11
Alternate	Irene Bush	appt exp 5/11
Ex-Officio/Selectman	Lorn Buxton	term exp 5/10
Planning Board Rep	Haden Gerrish	term exp 5/10
Conservation Commission	Elisabeth Hume, Chr.	appt exp 5/11
	Lorna Robinson	appt exp 5/09
	Diana Appleton	appt exp 5/11
	Linda Ball	appt exp 5/10
	Connie White	appt exp 5/09
	Brian Mack	appt exp 5/11
Alternate	Nancy Gulley	appt exp 5/11
Alternate	Wm. B. Marshall, III	appt exp 5/09
Alternate	James Rini	appt exp 5/011
Alternate	Curt Gillespie	appt exp 5/11
Ex-Officio/Selectman	Gene Doherty	term exp 5/09
Budget Committee	Michael Armitage	term exp 5/09 (appt for 1 yr)
	Damon Frampton	term exp 5/09 (appt for 1 yr)
	William Cronin	term exp 5/09
Ex-Officio/Selectman	Lorn Buxton	term exp 5/10
Ex-Officio/School Board	Roderick MacDonald	term exp 5/09
Town Historian	Deborah Schulte	indef appt
Trustees of the Trust Funds	William Cronin, Chr.	term exp 5/09
	Peter Reed Jr.	term exp 5/10
	Mark Connolly	term exp 5/09 (appt for 1 yr)
Library Trustees	Patricia Hickey, Chr.	term exp 5/09
	Joan Lockhart	term exp 5/10
	Brad Greeley	term exp 5/11
Alternate	Paula Carroll	appt exp 5/09
Alternate	Christine Collins	appt exp 5/09
Library Director	Gene Fox	indef appt
Supervisors of Checklist	Leslie Parker, Chr.	term exp 5/10
	Sherrie Becker	term exp 5/14
	Mary Rauh	term exp 5/12
Cemetery Trustees	David Merrill, Chr.	term exp 5/10
	Thomas Boisvert	term exp 5/09
	Jim Cerny	term exp 5/11
Recreation Committee	Guy Stearns, Chr.	appt exp 5/09

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Elected Positions And Salaries

<u>Position</u>	<u>Annual Salary</u>
Selectman, Chair	\$2,000
Selectmen (2)	1,800
Town Clerk	7,200
Treasurer	4,000
Collector of Taxes	7,200
Cemetery Trustee (3)100
Moderator	100 per election
Supervisor of Checklist (3)100 plus \$100 per election
Trustee of Trust Funds (2)100
Trustee of Trust Funds, Bookkeeper250
Historian250

There are many others who participate in Town Government on an unpaid basis, and their service is most valuable to the success of our Town. These individuals deserve the whole hearted thanks of the community for their civic involvement.

Town Meeting

Great Island Common

May 13, 2008

Articles I through X were voted by ballot with results indicated. Will Gleason opened the polls at 9am and Moderator Wayne Semprini declared them closed at 7pm after giving everyone a three minute notice.

ARTICLE I: Balloting for Town officers produced the following results:

Town Clerk (one year)	Priscilla Hodgkins	331 votes
Selectman (three years)	Peter Gamester	201 votes
	William F. Cronin	196 votes
	RECOUNT 05/22/2008	
Treasurer (one year)	William B. Marshall III	346 votes
Tax Collector (one year)	Pamela P. Cullen	346 votes
Budget Committee (three years)	No one received enough votes to qualify	
Budget Committee (two years)	No one received enough votes to qualify	
Trust Funds Trustee (three years)	No one received enough votes to qualify	
Library Trustee (three years)	Brad Greeley	332 votes
Cemetery Trustee (three years)	By write in Jim Cerny	65 votes
Supr of checklist (four years)	Mary Rauh	332 votes
Supr. of Checklist (six years)	Sherri Becker	331 votes
Cemetery Trustee (three years)	David Merrill	163 votes
Fire Ward (three years)	James Murphy	300 votes
Fire Ward (one year)	Peter Rice	329 votes

The ballot for the School District, conducted simultaneously with the Election of Town officers, had the following results:

School Board (three years):	Gary Rumph	341 votes
School Board Clerk (one year)	No one received enough votes to qualify	

After the polls were closed, Moderator Wayne Semprini called the Town Meeting to order. His first act was for every one to stand and say the Pledge of Allegiance. While standing, Semprini then asked everyone to give a moment of silence to the people in Town that had departed during the year. Semprini then read the rules of the meeting which were ADOPTED by voice vote.

ARTICLE II: Zoning Amendment Number 1 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 277 YES to 65 NO.

ARTICLE III: Zoning Amendment Number 2 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 244 YES to 111 to 244 NO.

ARTICLE IV: Zoning Amendment Number 3 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 240 YES to 95 NO.

ARTICLE V: Zoning Amendment Number 4 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 245 YES to 95 NO.

ARTICLE VI: Zoning Amendment Number 5 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 269 YES to 84 NO.

ARTICLE VII: Zoning Amendment Number 6 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 242 YES to 189 NO.

ARTICLE VIII: Zoning Amendment Number 7 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 261 YES to 108 NO.

ARTICLE IX: Zoning Amendment Number 8 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 276 YES to 84 NO.

ARTICLE X: Building Code Amendment #1 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 302 YES to 81 NO.

ARTICLES XI thru XI were discussed and voted on at the Town Meeting, the results are as follows.

ARTICLE XI: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$90,000 to be added to the Vehicle and Equipment Trust Fund previously established. ADOPTED BY HAND VOTE.

ARTICLE XII: To see if the Town will vote to raise the sum of \$12,650 to be used to pay donations to local non-profit agencies as specified in the WARRANT. ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE XIII: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Budget Committee's recommend operating budget in the amount of \$1,744,183.00 for the general operation of the Town. A number of questions were raised as to why the budget increased and the impact on Town Property Taxes. Each answered to the satisfaction of the people raising the questions. A motion was then made and seconded to Adopt the budget, which was adopted by hand count.

ARTICLE XIV: On petition of William Duncan and 19 other legal voters of New Castle to see if the Town will forward the Resolution as stated in the Warrant to the State. DENIED by hand count.

ARTICLE XV: To hear the reports of agents, officers, committees, boards and others heretofore chosen and to pass and vote relation thereto. Three reports were given"

Cemetery Trustee recognized Bill Lanham for his twenty-four years of being a Cemetery Trustee and showed a plaque he will be presented. In addition he indicated their plan to sell more plots to increase the Cemetery Trust fund so that the revenues will cover most of the maintenance of the cemetery. The Town voted not to sell pots to non-residence of the by voice vote.

Beth Hume gave a report on the plans of the Conservation committee.

The Board of Selectmen, Fire Chief and Police explained the need of renovating the fire and police station at a cost of \$870,000. A number of questions were raised concerning the need and the cost. Each was answered to the satisfaction of the individual raising the question A motion was then raised and seconded to move forward in investigating the proposed project and present same to the Town at a special meeting Town Meeting. Motion was ADOPTED by voice vote.

ARTICLE XVI: To transact such business as may legally come before the meeting. Since there was none a Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. ADOPTED by voice vote and Moderator Wayne Semprini adjourned the meeting at the Great Island Common at 8.50PM.

A true and correct record of the Town Meeting and election of Officers of Town of New Castle May 13, 2008, Attest.

Willard C. Gleason
Town Clerk

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Town Officials Surety Bonds In Force

NHMA PROPERTY /LIABILITY INSURANCE TRUST

Effective July 1, 2008

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
TAX COLLECTOR	\$71,000
DEPUTY TAX COLLECTOR71,000
TREASURER79,000
DEPUTY TREASURER79,000
TOWN CLERK	36,000
DEPUTY TOWN CLERK	36,000
TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS (3).	107,000
LIBRARY TRUSTEES (3)	5,000
BOAT PERMIT FEE AGENT (2).	1,000

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

**Schedule Of Town Property
For Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2008**

1.	Town Hall, land and building	\$871,200
	Furniture and equipment (Map 13 Lot 8)	80,000
2.	Recreation Building (Library) out buildings and land	11,903,200
	Furniture and equipment (Map 5 Lot 13)	225,000
3.	Police Department	0
	Equipment	17,500
4.	Fire Department, land and building	689,400
	Equipment (Map 13 Lot 7)	340,000
5.	Highway Department, land and building	0
	Equipment	45,000
	Material and supplies	6,000
6.	Water supply facilities	396,197
	Owned by Town of New Castle	
7.	Sewer plant and facilities	75,000
	Land and building (Map 16 Lot 48)	151,100
8.	School, land, and building	2,692,900
	Equipment (Map 12 Lot 33)	
9.	All other property and equipment	
	Cemeteries: Riverside (Map 15 Lot 10)	1,794,500
	Frost (Map 18 Lot 54)	372,900
	Prescott (Map 17 Lot 57)	349,600
	Oceanside (Map 5 Lot 13 Sublot 1)	1,051,100
10.	Other town owned lands and town landings:	
	Pit Lane lot (Map 10 Lot 9 & Map 10 Lot 9 Sublot 1)	561,500
	Town Landing, Laurel Lane (Map 11 Lot 30)	138,200
	Sand Pit (Map 12 Lot 3)	655,500
	Town garage, land, & cemetery (Map 17 Lot 56)	433,000
	Old library building & land (Map 17 Lot 58)	502,100
	Land-Walbach (Map 19 Lot 01)	1,122,500
	Land-Fort Point (Map 19 Lot 02 Sublot 1)	1,684,600
	Other land (Map 16, Lot 50, 51)	42,700
	Wentworth Road (Map 4 Lot 25)	23,500
TOTAL		\$26,224,197

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
FY2008 Assessed Valuation Report

	NUMBER OF ACRES	ASSESSED VALUATION
LAND AND BUILDINGS:		
Value of Land Only		
Current Use	9.08	\$136
Conservation Restriction	14.52	6,170
Discretionary Easement RSA 79-C	1.76	387
Discretionary Preservation Easement RSA 79-D	0	0
Residential	305.914	443,302,800
Commercial/Industrial	10.049	17,877,100
	-----	-----
Total of Taxable Land	341.323	461,186,593
Tax Exempt/Non-Taxable (\$55,309,000)	121.063	
Value of Buildings Only:		
Residential		191,615,100
Commercial/Industrial		52,973,800

Total Taxable Buildings		244,588,900
Tax exempt & non -taxable bldgs (\$6,323,600)		
Public Utilities: Electric		1,283,100
Mature Wood and Timber		0

Valuation Before Exemptions		707,058,593
Blind Exemption		50,000
ELDERLY EXEMPTIONS:		
Age 65 - 74 (\$100,000 each)	2	200,000
Age 75 - 79 (\$150,000 each)	2	300,000
Over Age 80 (\$150,000 each)	1	150,000
Deaf Exemption (\$50,000)		

TOTAL DOLLAR OF EXEMPTIONS		650,000
NET VALUATION FOR MUNICIPAL, COUNTY & LOCAL EDUCATION TAX RATE COMPUTATION		\$706,358,593
Less Public Utilities		1,283,100

NET VALUATION FOR STATE EDUCATION TAX		\$705,075,493
		=====
TAX CREDITS:		
Totally & Permanently Disabled Veterans their spouses and widows (\$700 each)		
Other War Service Credits RSA 72:28 (\$500)	76	38,000
	-----	-----
TOTAL NUMBER AND AMOUNT	76	\$38,000
		=====

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

2008 Tax Rate Computation

---Municipal Portion---

Gross Appropriations	\$1,846,833
Less: Revenues	893,569
Less: Shared Revenues	3,763
Add: Overlay	8,247
Add: War Service Credits	38,000

Net Town Appropriation	995,748
Special Adjustment	0

Approved Town/City Tax Effort	995,748
Municipal Tax Rate	\$1.41

---School Portion---

Net Local School Budget	1,657,645
Regional School Apportionment	0
Less: State Education Taxes	0
State Education Taxes	(1,244,927)
Approved School Tax Effort	412,718
Local Education Tax Rate	0.58

---State Ed Taxes---

Equalized Valuation (no utilities) X	2.14
581,741,612	1,244,927
Divide by Local Assessed Valuation (no utilities)	
\$1.77	
705,075,493	
Pay to State	0

---County Portion---

Due to County	653,474
Less: Shared Revenues	(3,379)
Approved County Tax Effort	650,095
County Tax Rate	0.92

\$4.68

Combined Tax Rate

Total Property Taxes Assessed	3,303,488
Less: War Service Credits	(38,000)
Add: Village District Commitment(s)	0
Total Property Tax Commitment	3,265,488

NEW CASTLE TAX RATES 1998 TO 2008

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Town	\$3.19	\$2.91	\$1.57	\$1.39	\$1.06	\$1.02	\$0.97	\$1.42	\$1.05	\$1.61	\$1.41
County	\$1.19	\$1.13	\$0.86	\$1.31	\$1.31	\$1.18	\$0.81	\$0.91	\$0.94	\$0.81	\$0.92
Education	\$4.02	\$10.02	\$5.56	\$6.86	\$7.19	\$7.38	\$3.88	\$2.70	\$2.50	\$2.36	\$2.35
Total Rate	\$8.40	\$14.06	\$7.99	\$9.56	\$9.56	\$9.58	\$5.66	\$5.03	\$4.49	\$4.78	\$4.68

* Reduction in all rates reflects revaluation of property.

Independent Auditor's Report

Board of Selectmen
Town of New Castle
New Castle, New Hampshire

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, and each major fund of the Town of New Castle, New Hampshire as of and for the year ended June 30, 2008, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Town's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these annual financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Governmental Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the annual financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the annual financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. I believe that my audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion.

In my opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, and each major fund of the Town of New Castle, New Hampshire, as of June 30, 2008, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof and the respective budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The Town has implemented several new *Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statements* which has established net assets for governmental and business-type activities.

The management's discussion and analysis, appearing on the following pages, is not a required part of the basis financial statements but is supplementary information required by the *Governmental Accounting Standards Board*. I have applied certain limited procedures, which consist principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, I did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

R. R. Bergeron

Portsmouth, NH
February 20, 2009

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
BALANCE SHEET—GENERAL FUND
30-June-08

<u>ASSETS:</u>	<u>General Funds</u>
Cash & Equivalents	\$636,730
Investments	2,498
Tax Liens Receivable	13,839
Tax deeded property	1,029
Due from water fund	48,377
Due from sewer fund	85,496

TOTAL ASSETS	\$787,969
	=====
 <u>LIABILITIES:</u>	
Accounts payable & accrued expenses	30,150

Total Liabilities	30,150

 <u>FUND BALANCE:</u>	
Unreserved	
Designated	0
Undesignated	757,819
Total Fund Balance	757,819

TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE	\$787,969
	=====

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL—GENERAL FUND
For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008**

	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>VARIANCE</u>
<u>REVENUES</u>			
TAXES:			
Property Taxes	\$2,893,049	2,893,460	411
Boat Taxes	6,500	5,475	(1,025)
Interest & Penalties on Taxes	7,200	3,012	(4,188)
	-----	-----	-----
	2,906,749	2,901,947	(4,802)
LICENSES, PERMITS & FEES:			
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	248,000	248,199	199
Building Permits	18,000	26,952	8,952
Other Licenses, Permits & Fees	2,200	3,735	1,535
	-----	-----	-----
	268,200	278,886	10,686
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE:			
Shared Revenue	15,909	15,909	0
Meals & Rooms Tax Distribution	48,012	43,221	(4,791)
Highway Block Grant	15,587	19,199	3,612
Conservation Grant	0	3,355	3,355
Other State Funds	0	0	0
	-----	-----	-----
	79,508	81,684	2,176
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	62,250		(62,250)
CHANGES FOR SERVICES			
Income from departments	110,000	129,486	19,486
TRANSFERS:			
Conservation funds	0	12,245	12,245
	-----	-----	-----
MISCELLANEOUS SOURCES:			
Interest on Investments	7,000	29,967	22,967
Sale and Rental of Property	12,800	15,162	2,362
Fines and Forfeits	2,700	3,800	1,100
Other Miscellaneous Sources	26,863	13,352	(13,511)
	-----	-----	-----
	49,363	62,281	12,918
TOTAL REVENUES	\$3,476,070	\$3,466,529	(\$9,541)

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL—GENERAL FUND
For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008**

	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>VARIANCE</u>
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>			
GENERAL GOVERNMENT:			
Executive	\$68,849	73,377	(4,528)
Election, Reg. & Vital Stats	17,849	16,878	971
Financial Administration	101,794	99,487	2,307
Revaluation of Property	14,300	28,172	(13,872)
Legal Expense	17,800	21,269	(3,469)
Planning and Zoning	15,777	16,019	(242)
General Government Buildings	25,000	12,568	12,432
Cemeteries	7,383	11,626	(4,243)
Insurance - Unallocated	100	359	(259)
Other General Government	10,000	0	10,000
	-----	-----	-----
	278,852	279,755	(903)
PUBLIC SAFETY:			
Police & Animal Control	295,267	308,619	(13,352)
Ambulance	15,140	15,140	0
Fire	268,512	200,814	67,698
Emergency Medical Services	10,627	8,374	2,253
Hazardous Materials	900	807	93
Building Inspection	14,403	27,059	(12,656)
Emergency Management	6,281	696	5,585
	-----	-----	-----
	611,130	561,509	49,621
HIGHWAYS & STREETS:			
Highways & Streets Maintenance	141,098	119,380	21,718
Street Lighting	6,000	7,749	(1,749)
	-----	-----	-----
	147,098	127,129	19,969
SANITATION:			
Administration	2,094	2,956	(862)
Solid Waste Collection	51,480	49,671	1,809
Solid Waste Disposal	76,600	60,684	15,916
	-----	-----	-----
	130,174	113,311	16,863
HEALTH:			
Pest Control	13,420	18,070	(4,650)
Health Agencies & Hospitals	10,000	10,000	0
	-----	-----	-----
	23,420	28,070	(4,650)

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL—GENERAL FUND
For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008**

	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>VARIANCE</u>
WELFARE:			
Direct Assistance	\$10,000	4,300	5,700
	-----	-----	-----
CULTURE AND RECREATION:			
Parks and Recreation	100,275	103,788	(3,513)
Library	53,889	53,847	42
Recreation/Library Building	25,840	18,519	7,321
Recreation Commission	6,850	7,373	(523)
	-----	-----	-----
	186,854	183,527	3,327
CONSERVATION:			
Other Conservation	33,103	43,467	(10,364)
	-----	-----	-----
	-----	-----	-----
CAPITAL RESERVES:			
Transfers To Trust Funds	85,000	85,000	0
	-----	-----	-----
PAYMENTS TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS:			
County Taxes	498,272	498,272	0
Local Education	1,442,339	1,442,339	0
	0	0	0
	-----	-----	-----
	1,940,611	1,940,611	0
	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL EXPENDITURES			
Excess of expenditures & other uses			
over revenues & other sources	3,446,242	3,366,679	79,563
	-----	-----	-----
Other Financing Sources (Uses)	0	0	0
	-----	-----	-----
Excess of Revenues & Other Sources			
Over (Under) Expenditures & Other Uses	\$29,828	\$99,850	\$70,022
	=====	=====	=====

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
ENTERPRISE FUNDS
June 30, 2008**

	<u>WATER</u>	<u>SEWER</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>			
Current Assets:			
Cash (overdraft)	\$115,323	(2,414)	112,909
Investments	\$180,224	50,000	230,224
	-----	-----	-----
Total Current Assets	295,547	47,586	343,133
Non-Current:			
Equipment	10,633	0	10,633
Service Lines and Stations	653,512	1,621,619	2,275,131
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(195,899)	(8,190)	(204,089)
	-----	-----	-----
Total Property, Plant & Equipment	468,246	1,613,429	2,081,675
	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL ASSETS	763,793	1,661,015	2,424,808
	=====	=====	=====
<u>LIABILITIES</u>			
Current Liabilities:			
Deposits	0	2,000	2,000
Accounts payable	1,150	11,283	12,433
Due to General Fund	48,377	85,496	133,873
	-----	-----	-----
Total Current Liabilities	49,527	98,779	148,306
<u>NET ASSETS</u>			
Invested in capital assets	470,811	1,332,844	1,803,655
Unrestricted	243,455	229,392	472,847
	-----	-----	-----
Total Net Assets	714,266	1,562,236	2,276,502
	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL LIABILITY & ASSETS	\$763,793	1,661,015	2,424,808
	=====	=====	=====

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES & CHANGES
IN FUND NET ASSETS
For Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008

	<u>WATER</u>	<u>SEWER</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
OPERATING REVENUE	\$52,024	137,264	189,288
OPERATING EXPENSES:			
Water Purchases	14,739	0	14,739
Sewerage Assessment	0	70,241	70,241
Personnel Services	14,534	28,814	43,348
Non-Personnel Services	14,603	40,400	55,003
Loss On Water Line Disposition	0	0	0
Depreciation (Note I-F)	14,232	3,276	17,508
	-----	-----	-----
Total Operating Expenses	58,108	142,731	200,839
	-----	-----	-----
Operating Income (Loss)	(6,084)	(5,467)	(11,551)
Non-Operating Revenues:			
Investment Earnings	7,245	0	7,245
	-----	-----	-----
Transfers - Change in net assets	1,161	(5,467)	(4,306)
	=====	=====	=====
Net assets at beginning of year	713,105	1,567,703	2,280,808
Contributed Capital - Town	0	0	0
	-----	-----	-----
Net Assets at End of Year	\$714,266	\$1,562,236	\$2,276,502
	=====	=====	=====

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
For Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008
Business-Type Activities Enterprise Fund

<u>FUNDS PROVIDED:</u>	<u>Water Fund</u>	<u>Sewer Fund</u>
Net Income (loss) for the Year (change in net assets)	\$1,161	(\$5,467)
Add Back Depreciation	14,232	3,276
	-----	-----
	15,393	(2,191)
	-----	-----
Increase(decrease) in Working Capital	\$15,393	(\$2,191)
	=====	=====

CHANGES IN ELEMENTS OF WORKING CAPITAL:

Increase (Decrease) in Current Assets:		
Cash and Investments	\$48,130	\$64,561
Accounts Receivable	(1,080)	0
	-----	-----
	47,050	64,561
Increase (Decrease) in investment activities:		
Equipment, service lines and stations	0	0
	-----	-----
(Increase) decrease in current liabilities:		
Deposits and accounts payable	(31,657)	(66,752)
	-----	-----
Increase(decrease) in Working Capital	\$15,393	(\$2,191)
	=====	=====

**TOWN OF
NEW CASTLE
NEW HAMPSHIRE**

2009 Warrant

FY09/10 Budget

BUDGET

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE

FY 2010

MS-7

ACCT.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3-V)	Op. Bud. Warr. Art.#	Appropriations 7/1/08 - 6/30/09 Approved by DRA	Actual Expenditures 7/1/07 - 6/30/08	Selectmen's Appropriations 7/1/09-6/30/10		Budget Committee's Appropriations 7/1/09-6/30/10	
					(RECOMMENDED)	(NOT RECOMMENDED)	RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED
GENERAL GOVERNMENT								
4130-4139	Executive		70823	73377	66480		66480	
4140-4149	Election, Reg.& Vital Statistics		16199	16879	17606		17606	
4150-4151	Financial Administration		104594	97132	113568		113568	
4152	Revaluation of Property		41900	28172	17574		17574	
4153	Legal Expense		17800	21270	16500		16500	
4155-4159	Personnel Administration		35881	0	36000		36000	
4191-4193	Planning & Zoning		17424	15907	18266		18266	
4194	General Government Buildings		29500	12568	24500		24500	
4195	Cemeteries		9833	11562	8633		8633	
4196	Insurance		30044	29365	32897		32897	
4197	Advertising & Regional Assoc.		0	0	0		0	
4199	Other General Government		10000	0	10000		10000	
PUBLIC SAFETY								
4210-4214	Police		298855	299898	308725		308725	
4215-4219	Ambulance		15140	15140	17004		17004	
4220-4229	Fire		225604	201289	245102		245102	
4240-4249	Building Inspection		16510	25445	11838		11838	
4290-4298	Emergency Management		10179	352	11864		11864	
4299	Other (Including Communications)				0			
AIRPORT/AVIATION CENTER								
4301-4309	Airport Operations							
HIGHWAYS & STREETS								
4311	Administration		0	0	0		0	
4312	Highways & Streets		139210	116119	122361		122361	
4313	Bridges		0	0	0		0	
4316	Street Lighting		6300	7749	7750		7750	
4319	Other							
SANITATION								
4321	Administration		2956	2956	1695		1695	
4323	Solid Waste Collection		91390	49671	100529		100529	
4324	Solid Waste Disposal		36000	60684	33000		33000	
4325	Solid Waste Clean-up		0	0	0		0	

BUDGET

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE

FY 2010

MS-7

ACCT.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3,V)	Op. Bud. Warr. Art.#	Appropriations 7/1/08 - 6/30/09 Approved by DRA	Actual Expenditures 7/1/07 - 6/30/08	Selectmen's Appropriations 7/1/09-6/30/10		Budget Committee's Appropriations 7/1/09-6/30/10	
					(RECOMMENDED)	(NOT RECOMMENDED)	RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED
4326-4329	Sewage Coll. & Disposal & Other		0	0	0		0	0
WATER DISTRIBUTION & TREATMENT								
4331	Administration		0	0	0		0	0
4332	Water Services		0	0	0		0	0
4335-4339	Water Treatment, Conserv.& Other		0	0	0		0	0
ELECTRIC								
4351-4352	Admin. and Generation		0	0	0		0	0
4353	Purchase Costs		0	0	0		0	0
4354	Electric Equipment Maintenance		0	0	0		0	0
4359	Other Electric Costs		0	0	0		0	0
HEALTH/WELFARE								
4411	Administration		1000	0	1200		1200	
4414	Pest Control		23000	18070	23050		23050	
4415-4419	Health Agencies & Hosp. & Other		0	10000	0		0	
4441-4442	Administration & Direct Assist.		10000	4300	10000		10000	
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Pymnts		0	0	0		0	
4445-4449	Vendor Payments & Other		0	0	0		0	
CULTURE & RECREATION								
4520-4529	Parks & Recreation		139799	125096	141840		141840	
4550-4559	Library		60243	53394	61345		61345	
4583	Patriotic Purposes		0	0	0		0	
4589	Other Culture & Recreation		0	0	0		0	
CONSERVATION								
4611-4612	Admin.& Purch. of Nat. Resources		27103	43468	27953		27953	
4619	Other Conservation		0	0	0		0	
4631-4632	REDEVELOPMENT & HOUSING		0	0	0		0	
4651-4659	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		0	0	0		0	
DEBT SERVICE								
4711	Princ.- Long Term Bonds & Notes		0	0	0		0	
4721	Interest-Long Term Bonds & Notes		0	0	30000		30000	
4723	Int. on Tax Anticipation Notes		0	0	0		0	
4790-4799	Other Debt Service		0	0	0		0	

BUDGET			TOWN OF NEW CASTLE			FY 2010		MS-7	
ACCT.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3.V)	Op. Bud. Warr. Art.#	Appropriations 7/1/08 - 6/30/09 Approved by DRA	Actual Expenditures 7/1/07 - 6/30/08	Selectmen's Appropriations 7/1/09-6/30/10		Budget Committee's Appropriations 7/1/09-6/30/10		
					(RECOMMENDED)	(NOT RECOMMENDED)	RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED	
CAPITAL OUTLAY									
4901	Land		0	0	0		0		
4902	Machinery, Vehicles & Equipment			0	0		0		
4903	Buildings				0		0		
4909	Improvements Other Than Bldgs.				0		0		
OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT									
4912	To Special Revenue Fund				0		0		
4913	To Capital Projects Fund				0		0		
4914	To Enterprise Fund				0		0		
	Sewer-		213030	142732	265055		265055		
	Water-		50066	58107	54200		54200		
	Electric-								
	Airport-								
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund								
4916	To Exp.Tr.Fund-except #4917								
4917	To Health Maint. Trust Funds								
4918	To Nonexpendable Trust Funds								
4919	To Fiduciary Funds								
	SUBTOTAL I		1750383	1540702	1836535		1836535		

MS-7 BUDGET		TOWN OF NEW CASTLE		FY 200910	
ACCT.#	SOURCE OF REVENUE	Warr. Art.#	Estimated Revenues 7/1/07-6/30/08	Actual Revenues 7/1/07-6/30/08	Estimated Revenues 7/1/09-6/30/10
	TAXES		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3120	Land Use Change Taxes - General Fund		0	0	0
3180	Resident Taxes		0	0	0
3185	Timber Taxes		0	0	0
3186	Payment in Lieu of Taxes		0	0	0
3189	Other Taxes - Boat		5000	5476	5000
3190	Interest & Penalties on Delinquent Taxes		3000	3012	3000
	Inventory Penalties		4000	0	0
3187	Excavation Tax (\$.02 cents per cu yd)		0	0	0
	LICENSES, PERMITS & FEES		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3210	Business Licenses & Permits		0	0	0
3220	Motor Vehicle Permit Fees		248000	248199	248000
3230	Building Permits		21300	26952	14600
3290	Other Licenses, Permits & Fees		2200	3736	1800
3311-3319	FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT				
	FROM STATE		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3351	Shared Revenues		0	0	0
3352	Meals & Rooms Tax Distribution		48000	43221	43221
3353	Highway Block Grant		15675	19199	15826
3354	Water Pollution Grant		0	0	0
3355	Housing & Community Development		0	0	0
3356	State & Federal Forest Land Reimbursement		0	0	0
3357	Flood Control Reimbursement		0	0	0
3359	Other (Including Railroad Tax)		0	0	0
3379	FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS		0	0	0
	CHARGES FOR SERVICES		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3401-3406	Income from Departments		110000	129485	101000
3409	Other Charges		0	0	0
	MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3501	Sale of Municipal Property		0	5040	0
3502	Interest on Investments		24050	29967	24050
3503-3509	Other		38773	27274	21300
	INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFERS IN		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3912	From Special Revenue Funds		0	0	0
3913	From Capital Projects Funds		0	0	0
3914	From Enterprise Funds				
	Sewer - (Offset)		213030	137265	265055
	Water - (Offset)		53900	59269	54200
	Electric - (Offset)		0	0	0
	Airport - (Offset)		0	0	0
3915	From Capital Reserve Funds		0	0	0
3916	From Trust & Fiduciary Funds		0	0	0
3917	Transfers from Conservation Funds		0	0	0
	OTHER FINANCING SOURCES		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3934	Proc. from Long Term Bonds & Notes		0	0	1100000
	Amounts VOTED From F/B ("Surplus")				
	Fund Balance ("Surplus") to Reduce Taxes				
	TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE & CREDITS		802928	738095	1897052

****BUDGET SUMMARY****

	7/1/08-6/30/09 ADOPTED BUDGET	SELECTMEN'S RECOMMENDED BUDGET	BUDGET COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDED BUDGET
SUBTOTAL 1 Appropriations Recommended (from pg. 5)	1750383	1836535	1836535
SUBTOTAL 2 Special Warrant Articles Recommended (from pg. 6)	90000	1195000	1195000
SUBTOTAL 3 "Individual" Warrant Articles Recommended (from pg. 6)	12650	12650	12650
TOTAL Appropriations Recommended	1853033	3044185	3044185
Less: Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits (from above)	802928	1879052	1897052
Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised	1050105	1147133	1147133

Maximum Allowable Increase to Budget Committee's Recommended Budget per RSA 32:18:
(See Supplemental Schedule With 10% Calculation)

190,154

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
TOWN OF NEW CASTLE**

Town Warrant For 2009

**ROCKINGHAM, SS
NEW CASTLE**

To the inhabitants of the Town of New Castle, in the County of Rockingham and State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the New Castle Recreation Center, Great Island Common, in said New Castle, on Tuesday, the 12th of May 2009, to act upon Articles I through II. The business session of the Annual Town Meeting will commence at seven o'clock in the evening to act upon Articles III through XII. The polls for the election of Town Officers and Ballot Articles will open at nine o'clock in the forenoon and shall not be closed before seven o'clock in the evening.

ARTICLE I: To choose all necessary Town Officers for the following year.

(ON THE BALLOT)

ARTICLE II: Zoning Amendment Number 1: Are you in favor of adopting Zoning Amendment Number 1, as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the Zoning Ordinance under Definitions of Accessory Apartments – Section 2.0 Definitions and Section 6.6 Accessory Apartments, to read?

Section 2.0

DEFINITIONS

2.3

Definitions

3. Accessory Apartment: One apartment located within an owner occupied, single family dwelling which is clearly a subordinate and accessory part thereof, and which has safe and reasonable means of ingress and egress.

Section 6.6 ACCESSORY APARTMENTS

6.6.1 Purpose:

The purpose of the Accessory Apartments provisions of this ordinance, and the somewhat restricted use thereof, is to allow an Accessory Apartment to be established within an owner occupied single family dwelling in such a manner that it will retain it's single family appearance together with the existing character of the neighborhood and community.

6.6.2 Description/Restrictions of an Accessory Apartment:

An Accessory Apartment is limited to one (1) bedroom and occupancy of no more than two (2) individuals. Such apartment must contain its own full bath and may contain cooking facilities. In addition, the following restrictions shall apply to all accessory apartments:

- 1) Only single family dwellings are eligible to have an accessory apartment.
- 2) Only one accessory apartment is permitted per single family home,
- 3) Only residential uses may have an accessory apartment,
- 4) All accessory apartments shall have an entrance which provides safe and reasonable means of ingress and egress.

6.6.3 Permitted By Special Exception:

An Accessory Apartment shall be permitted in all districts as a Special Exception granted by the Zoning Board of Adjustment. An Accessory Apartment shall be permitted only if it conforms with the conditions and criteria specified herein.

6.6.4 Criteria And Conditions for Special Exception:

- 1) An Accessory Apartment must be contained within an existing single family dwelling by means of a common wall and not be separated by a breezeway.
- 2) The Accessory Apartment must be designed so that the appearance of the building remains that of a single family dwelling. Any new entrance shall be located on the side or rear of the building.
- 3) The dwelling to which an Accessory Apartment is added or maintained may not be converted to a condominium or any other form of ownership distinct from the ownership of the existing single family dwelling.

- 4) An Accessory Apartment shall be at least 300 square feet but not more than 800 square feet in size. The size of the Accessory Apartment shall not exceed one-third (1/3) of the total living area of the dwelling structure in which it is contained.
- 5) Prior to any change in the existing property related to the construction of, addition to or renovation of any Accessory Apartment, a building permit must be obtained from the Building Inspector and shall conform to all other conditions for a Special Exception as specified in Section 4.3 of this ordinance. (May 2002)
- 6) The Applicant shall provide to the Board of Adjustment and the Building Inspector drawings and or sketches drawn approximately to scale and adequate to evaluate that the proposed Accessory Apartment meets the criteria specified herein.
- 7) Adequate off street paved or gravel parking spaces shall be provided consisting of two (2) parking spaces for the primary dwelling and two (2) additional parking spaces for the Accessory Apartment.

6.6.5

An Existing Septic System Certification:

For dwellings not served by public sewer, the owner of a dwelling in which an Accessory Apartment is to be constructed shall provide evidence to the Building Inspector that septic facilities are adequate for the combined waste discharge from the main and accessory dwellings. The Building Inspector may, at his/her discretion, require written certification from a septic system designer, sanitary engineer, or civil engineer, licensed in the State of New Hampshire, that states that the septic system is adequate and meets the applicable subsurface disposal regulations of the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services.

6.6.6

Occupancy Permit:

No Accessory Apartment may be occupied prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy (Occupancy Permit) by the Building Inspector. Prior to the issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy, the Building Inspector shall be furnished with a current/valid smoke and fire alarm compliance certificate.

Any changes to a properly permitted Accessory Apartment, including, but not limited to, a change of ownership of the real property on which the Accessory Apartment is located, except as hereinafter provided, shall require a reinspection by the Building Inspector and the issuance of a new certificate of occupancy evidencing compliance with all applicable provisions of the building codes as they exist at the time of the reinspection. A transfer of ownership to a spouse, or a grantor trust in which the transferor retains a beneficial interest in the property, shall not be considered a change in ownership.

ARTICLE III: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,100,000) for the construction of a new Fire/Police building to replace the existing New Castle Fire Station; and to authorize the issuance of not more than One Million One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,100,000) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act, RSA:1 et seq., as amended; to authorize the Selectmen to apply for, obtain and accept, federal, state or other aid, if any, which may be available for said project and to comply with all laws applicable to said project; and to authorize the Town officials to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver said bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof; and to authorize the Selectmen to take any other action or to pass any other vote relative thereto.

(2/3 BALLOT VOTE REQUIRED)

Recommended by the Budget Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

ARTICLE IV: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Budget Committee's recommended operating budget in the amount of \$1,836,535.00 for the general operation of the Town.

Recommended by the Budget Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

ARTICLE V: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,650 to be used to pay Town donations to local non-profit agencies.

1. A Safe Place	\$500
2. Adult Tutorial Program	\$100
3. American Red Cros	\$500
4. Aids Response	\$200
5. Area Homemaker	\$2,000
6. Child & Family Services	\$600
7. McFarland Children's Center	\$250
8. Meals on Wheels	\$1,500
9. Prescott Park	\$200
10. Rockingham County Community Action	\$100
11. RSVP	\$1000
12. Salvation Army	\$1000
13. SeaCare Health Service	\$400
14. Seacoast Hospice	\$1,250
15. Seacoast Mental Health	\$2,000
16. Sexual Assault Services	\$250
17. CASA- Court Appoint Spec. Advocates	\$200
18. Seacoast VNA	\$250
19. Child Advocacy	\$350

Total	\$12,650
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Recommended by the Budget Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

ARTICLE VI: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$95,000 to be added to the Vehicle and Equipment Trust Fund previously established.

Recommended by the Budget Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

ARTICLE VII: On a petition from 26 legal voters of New Castle to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate \$175,000 for the construction of a sidewalk from the Wentworth community area to the town Common and another sidewalk from Ritson Street to the Maude Trefethen School. \$140,000 of this appropriation will be reimbursed by a Federal Transportation Enhancement grant. This appropriation is contingent upon receiving the grant and/or other funds to ensure that the net cost to the town's taxpayers will not exceed \$35,000 for the project's engineering and construction.

**Not recommended by the Budget Committee
Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen.**

ARTICLE VIII: Are you in favor of combining the offices of the Town Clerk and Tax Collector to create a new office of Town Clerk-Tax Collector and to have the term of elected office be three years? If approved, an article shall be placed on the ballot at the next annual meeting to choose a Town clerk-Tax collector.

ARTICLE IX: To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of an existing "Water and Sewer Department Depreciation Expendable Trust Fund" to the "Sewer Department Expendable Trust Fund" for the purpose of funding maintenance, repair and replacement of Sewer Department facilities and further to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from this fund. (2/3 vote required)

ARTICLE X: To see if the Town will vote to create an expendable trust fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, to be known as the "Water Department Expendable Trust Fund", for the purpose of funding maintenance, repair and replacement of Water Department facilities and further to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from this fund.

ARTICLE XI: To hear the reports of agents, officers, committees, boards, and others heretofore chosen and to pass any vote in relation thereto.

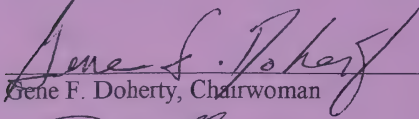
ARTICLE XII: To transact such other business as may legally come before the meeting.

Given under our hand and seal this
20th day of Airl, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Nine.

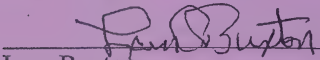
A true copy of warrant - attest

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
TOWN OF NEW CASTLE
TOWN WARRANT FOR 2009

We hereby certify that we gave notice to the inhabitants within named, to meet at the time and place and for the purpose within mentioned, by posting an attested copy of the within Warrant at the place of meeting within named and a like attested copy at the Post Office and Town Hall, both being a public place in said Town of New Castle.


Gene F. Doherty, Chairwoman


Peter Gannister


Lorn Buxton
Board of Selectmen

Town of New Castle
April 20, 2009

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NON-EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
For Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

	BALANCE <u>06/30/07</u>	<u>RECEIVED</u>	<u>DISBURSED</u>	BALANCE <u>06/30/08</u>
<u>PRINCIPAL:</u>				
Road Race	\$6,948	8,692	(299)	15,341
Marchand Fund	5,850	69	0	5,919
Enterprise (Water & Sewer)	283,071	50,000	(7,386)	325,685
Library	9,898	0	(268)	9,630
Cemetery Maintenance	113,922	7,641	0	121,563
SAU50-Special Education	89,780	0	(2,529)	87,251
Conservation	1,526	252	(29)	1,749
School Tuition	35,000	0	0	35,000
Vehicle & Equipment	69,794	150,000	(4,930)	214,864
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	-----	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL PRINCIPAL	615,789	216,654	(15,441)	817,002
<u>INCOME:</u>				
Road Race Funds	2,017	654	(10)	2,661
Marchand Fund	811	304	(264)	851
Enterprise (Sewer)	37,542	19,125	0	56,667
Library	0	451	(451)	0
Cemetery Maintenance	0	7,741	(7,741)	0
Special Education	11,099	5,377	0	16,476
Conservation	147	78	0	225
School Tuition	2,572	1,835	0	4,407
Vehicle & Equipment	42,687	9,410	(39,052)	13,045
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	-----	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL INCOME	96,875	44,975	(47,518)	94,332
TOTAL TRUST FUNDS	\$712,664	261,629	(62,959)	911,334
	=====	=====	=====	=====

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Management's Discussion And Analysis

June 30, 2008

As management of the Town of New Castle, we offer readers this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008.

A. Financial Highlights

- As of the close of the current fiscal year, the total of assets exceeded liabilities by \$26,449,070. (See Note C. following)
- At the end of the current fiscal year, the unreserved fund balance in the general fund was \$757,819 an increase of \$99,849 over the preceding fiscal year.
- There was no long term debt (i.e., bonds payable) at the close of the current fiscal year.

B. Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Town of New Castle's basic financial statements. The basic financial statements are comprised of three components: (1) government-wide financial statements, (2) fund financial statements, and (3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements.

Government-Wide Financial Statements. The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Town's finances in a manner similar to a private sector business.

The Statement of Net Assets presents information on all of the Town's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net assets. Over time, increases or decreases in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position is improving or deteriorating.

The Statement of Activities presents information showing how the Town's net assets changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net assets are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flow. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g., uncollected taxes).

Both of the government-wide financial statements distinguish functions that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues (governmental activities) from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges (business-type activities). The governmental activities of the Town of New Castle include general government, public safety, highways and streets, sanitation, health and welfare, and culture and recreation. The business-type activities include water and sewer operations.

Fund Financial Statements. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. Fund accounting is used to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance related legal requirements. All of the funds can be divided into three categories: governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary.

Governmental Funds. Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as government activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on the near term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long term impact of the government's near term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund Balance Sheet and Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

An annual appropriated budget is adopted for the general fund. A budgetary comparison statement has been provided for the general fund to demonstrate compliance with this budget.

Proprietary Funds. Proprietary funds are maintained as follows:

Enterprise funds are used to report the same functions presented as business-type activities in the government-wide financial statements. Specifically, enterprise funds are used to account for water and sewer operations.

Proprietary funds provide the same type of information as the business-type activities reported in the government-wide financial statements, only in more detail. The proprietary fund financial statements provide separate information for the water and sewer operations, both of which are considered to be major funds of the Town of New Castle.

Fiduciary Funds. Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the government. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to support the Town's own programs. The accounting used for fiduciary funds is much like that used for proprietary funds.

Notes to Financial Statements. The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide fund and financial statements.

Other Information. In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information which is required to be disclosed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Boards (GASB).

C. Government-Wide Financial Analysis

The following is a summary of condensed government-wide financial data for the current fiscal year as well as comparative information for the prior year.

FY2008:	Governmental <u>Activities</u>	Business Type <u>Activities</u>	<u>Total</u>
Total assets	\$ 24,252,718	\$ 2,424,808	\$ 26,677,526
Total liabilities	<u>30,150</u>	<u>148,306</u>	<u>178,456</u>
Total net assets	\$ 24,222,568	\$ 2,276,502	\$ 26,449,070
Total liabilities	\$101,191	\$49,897	\$151,088
	=====	=====	=====

FY2007:	Governmental <u>Activities</u>	Business Type <u>Activities</u>	<u>Total</u>
Total assets	\$ 24,242,960	\$ 2,330,705	\$ 26,573,665
Total liabilities	<u>101,191</u>	<u>49,897</u>	<u>151,088</u>
Total net assets	\$ 24,141,769	\$ 2,280,808	\$ 26,422,577
	=====	=====	=====

By far the largest portion of net assets, is our investment (96.6%) in capital assets (e.g. land, buildings, machinery and equipment) less any related debt, if any, used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. These capital assets are used to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the investment in capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate such liabilities.

D. Financial Analysis of the Government's Funds

As noted earlier, fund accounting is used to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental funds. The focus of governmental funds is to provide information on near- term inflows, outflows and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing financing requirements. In particular, unreserved fund balance may serve as a useful measure of government's net resources available for (1) future emergency expenditures, and (2) funding future appropriations.

As of the end of the current fiscal year, governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$757,819, a increase of \$99,849 in comparison with the prior year.

Proprietary funds. Proprietary funds provide the same type of information found in the business-type activities reported in the government-wide financial statements, but in more detail.

Unrestricted net assets of the enterprise funds at the end of the year amounted to \$472,847. Factors concerning the finances of propriety funds have already been addressed in the entity-wide discussion of business-type activities.

E. Enhanced Education Tax

All municipalities, including the Town of New Castle, are required to assess the state-wide enhanced education tax. New Castle's amount as determined by the state was \$1,442,339. The statewide enhanced education tax assessment subtracted from the school appropriation (\$1,582,532) less offsetting revenues (\$177,575 including \$150,000 surplus/savings) resulted in an amount greater than zero (approximately \$58,000). New Castle was required to pay this amount to the state by March 15, 2008.

Requests for Information:

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Town of New Castle's finances for all those with an interest in the government's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to:

Selectmen
Town of New Castle
PO Box 367
New Castle, NH 03854

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT (MS-61)
For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008**

	LEVY FOR		PRIOR YEAR LEVIES	
	2008	2007	2006	2005+
<u>UNCOLLECTED TAXES:</u>				
Property Taxes				0.00
<u>TAXES COMMITTED THIS YEAR:</u>				
Property Taxes		\$2,893,049.00		
<u>OVERPAYMENTS:</u>				
Property Taxes				
Abatements by Check		0.00		
Interest Collected on Delinquent Taxes		3,103.02		
New this fiscal year	\$34.52			
TOTAL DEBITS	\$34.52	\$2,896,152.02	0.00	0.00
<u>REMITTED TO TREASURER:</u>				
Property Taxes		\$2,885,701.48		
Interest		3,103.02		
Penalties				
Conversion to Liens		4,493.00	0.00	
<u>ABATEMENTS:</u>				
Abatements		2,854.52		
UNCOLLECTED TAXES AT 6/30/06		0.00		
Overpayments returned	\$34.52	0.00		
TOTAL CREDITS	\$34.52	\$2,896,152.02	0.00	0.00
<u>UNREDEEMED LIENS 6/30/01</u>				
<u>LIENS EXECUTED:</u>				
Unredeemed liens balance beg of FY			\$7,803.80	
Liens executed during FY		\$5,023.52		
Interest & Costs		0.00	405.22	0.00
Unredeemed Elderly Liens beg of FY		2,728.00		\$3,317.00
Elderly Liens Executed during FY	\$2,770.00			
TOTAL LIEN DEBITS	\$2,770.00	\$7,751.52	\$8,209.02	\$3,317.00
<u>REMITTED TO TREASURER:</u>				
Redemptions			\$7,803.80	0.00
Interest & Costs		0.00	405.22	0.00
Unredeemed Elderly liens end of FY		\$5,023.52		0.00
Unredeemed liens balance beg of FY	\$2,770.00	2,728.00	0.00	\$3,317.00
TOTAL CREDITS	\$2,770.00	\$7,751.52	\$8,209.02	\$3,317.00

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
RECEIPTS OF THE TOWN CLERK
For Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008

Motor Vehicle Permits	\$248,199.00
Dog Licenses	667.00
Vital Records	589.00
All Other Sources	301.00

TOTAL RECEIPTS	249,756.00
	=====
PAYMENTS REMITTED TO TREASURER	\$249,756.00
	=====

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
REPORT OF THE TREASURER
For Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008

The following is the balance of all accounts in the custody of the Treasurer as of June 30, 2008.

GENERAL FUND:

Checking Account	\$45,861.36
NH Public Deposit Investment Pool	2,497.54
Bank North Investment Pool	590,192.81

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Checking Account	112,910.12
NH Public Deposit Investment Pool	180,223.60

Respectfully Submitted,
 William B. Marshall, III
 Treasurer

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC LIBRARY
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS
AND DISBURSEMENTS
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008**

RECEIPTS:

Town Appropriations	\$53,394.00
School Appropriations	\$3,000.00
Designated Gifts	\$648.53
Donations	\$1,670.54
Investments	\$182.50
Other	\$37.44

TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$58,933.01
	=====

DISBURSEMENTS:

Books, Videos,	\$7,750.46
Children's Books	\$2,560.61
Designated Gifts	
Payroll & Payroll Taxes	\$38,221.75
Software, Hardware, & Support	\$1,345.00
Operations	\$4,799.73
Programs & Professional Expenses	\$1,128.68
Other	\$501.15

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$56,307.38
	=====

NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH	\$2,625.63
CASH ON HAND 6/30/2006	\$10,224.81

CASH ON HAND 6/30/2007	\$12,850.44
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Report Of The Town Clerk

On behalf of the Town of New Castle, I want to thank Will Gleason for all of his years of service as the Town Clerk. As his one-time deputy, I want to thank him for his patience and good sense of humor. For this job it is essential to have both of these qualities.

If you have been to the office since September, you know that you can now register your car, receive new decals and license plates as well as pay the town permit fee for your car – all in just a few minutes. The typewriter was replaced with a computer and Deputy Town Clerk Carol Gamester and I took many hours of training in order to become certified Municipal Agents for the state's Motor Vehicle Department. I am pleased to say that we have improved services to the citizens and increased the amount we take in for fees – all without any significant cost to the town. The increased income is generated when we process the state portion of car registrations: we collect a fee of \$3.00 per vehicle. The town paid for travel expenses for the clerk and deputy clerk to attend training classes run by the Motor Vehicle department. The computer and printers were supplied by the state, as was the training.

Hats off to Carol Gamester for taking on the job of Deputy Town Clerk during the transition to the new motor vehicle computer system.

The Presidential Election required many extra hours of my time to tend to the extraordinary number of absentee voters – there were over 120 in a town with just about 1,000 people registered to vote. The turnout of voters was excellent – nearly 95% – something we likely will not see again for a long time. It was a pleasure to work with Supervisors of the Checklist Leslie Parker, Sherry Becker, and Mary Rauh.

I want to thank Pamela Cullen for many hours of support and training in municipal law. I still struggle to read an RSA all the way through. Pam not only reads RSAs – she can translate the legal mumbo-jumbo into normal language and pick out the important parts. She makes it all seem easy. It's not.

Respectfully submitted,
Priscilla Hodgkins
Town Clerk

Report Of Police Department

"I haven't reported my missing credit card to the police because whoever stole it is spending less than my wife."

Ilie Nastase

"Society is a mad house whose wardens are the officials and the police."

August Strindberg

Another year – where does the time go...well it goes...

TRAFFIC ENFORCMENT

Speeding enforcement is always a priority with your police department and with you, the taxpayer. We have given out many warnings and summons over the past year and will again this year, I am sorry to say. New Castle was never designed or built for vehicles other than the four legged kind. Again many of the stops we make are Islanders.

NEW FACE

Chet Lang was hired as a part-time police officer this year. He is a local resident and a good fit for the police department and the community. Chet also is working and updating the town web page, check it out at www.newcastlenh.org.

PARKING

Parking is another issue that does not want to go away. Many people love to visit the island in the summer and parking – or lack of it – is always with us. Please get you town resident stickers at the town office, so we can know the good guys from the bad guys.

SEACOAST EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (SERT)

The New Castle Police Department has been an active supporter of the Seacoast Emergency Response Team (SERT). There have been emergency call outs that range from barricaded subject, hostage situations and alerts at Seabrook Station. The SERT team is composed of 17 communities on the seacoast including New Castle.

SAFETY COMPLEX

This is up this year for a vote. I cannot beg or plead enough on this issue. We are in a very bad way here and have been for a long time. We all know that times are hard, but there has never been a better price or the right time to make this happen. *Please vote yes*, as someone will get hurt under current conditions and by doing nothing it will be our responsibility and our liability.

We wish to thank the New Castle Fire Department Chief David Blanding his crew with special thanks to Terri and Teddy Golter in keeping our EMS skills current. Thanks to Chief Roberts of the Coast Guard Station, Portsmouth Harbor for all their help and cooperation and to the Board of Selectmen for their support.

SYNOPSIS POLICE ACTIVITY

Suspicious Activity/criminal complaints	236
Medical Assists/Assist FD	82
Total Arrests	72
Domestic Complaints	33
Mutual Aid Calls	187
Alarms	322
Building/Residents	299
Assist other Town agencies	997
Assist citizens	321

Respectfully submitted,
James C. Murphy
Chief of Police

Fire Department / Emergency Management Report

The year 2008 was a busy and challenging one for the New Castle Fire Department. The call volume was up compared to previous years in part due to several rain storms during the spring and the great ice storm in December.

It was a good year for recruiting with the department adding 6 new members;

Firefighter2 Justin Frechette, USCGC Campbell

Firefighter Yasser Hammami, Portsmouth

EMT-B Ruth Moulton, New Castle

Firefighter/EMT-B John Roberts, USCG Station Portsmouth Harbor

Paramedic John Thagard, USCG Station Portsmouth Harbor

Firefighter Douglas Voss, Portsmouth

DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY;

The department remains very proactive with practical hands-on training every Monday evening, 6:30pm-9:00pm, throughout the year. Training is usually performed outside regardless of the weather conditions.

The Emergency Medical Staff train on the second Wednesday evening of every month in addition to individual classes and required recertification programs and tests.

Total calls: 197 Medical Aid calls: 80 Training Man Hours: 3,150

Other department activities; Fire Inspections, permits for outside fires, heating equipment installation, and places of public assembly.

Emergency Management drills relating to the Seabrook Power Plant.

I would like to express my appreciation to the Board of Selectmen, Town personnel, Boards, Committees, and the Citizens of New Castle for their continued support and cooperation. I look forward to a very productive 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

David M. Blanding

Fire Chief / Emergency Management Director

Planning Board Report

This past year the planning board has worked on several initiatives as well the new shore land protection act. These initiatives are meant to strengthen our land use policy and zoning ordinances. Our goal as stated in the master plan is to insure that we protect the unique character of New Castle.

At the 2008 town meeting the planning board proposed and the voters approved a complete re-write on the HDC section of the zoning ordinance, this change made the HDC section easier to read and also revised the old 360 degree rule.

This year the planning board has undertaken the review of the accessory apartment section as well as looking at alternative energy issues as they relate to New Castle. We have also started to review the workforce housing law that was recently passed by the state.

Our charter is to continue to asses the value of the town's zoning ordinances with input from the selectman, the board of adjustment, conservation commission, historic district commission, the building inspector as well as the state and county officials. It is our goal to create regulations that promote the rights to enjoyment of private property while at the same time maintaining the unique character of our town.

I would like to thank Stu Levenson for his tireless work as chairman and also to thank the members of the board, secretary Anita Colby and the staff at the town hall for their efforts on behalf of the planning board. The many hours of hard work and dedication of this group are greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Colotti
Chairman

Zoning Board Of Adjustment Report

The Zoning Board of Adjustment heard eleven cases in 2008.

Two requests for hearings, postponed from 2007 due to inclement weather, included the following:

- Variance - Managed Area - Construct walkway and stone steps - approved
- Variance - Managed Area/Buffer Zone- Sewer connection - approved

The board heard nine new cases in 2008. One case required an on-site meeting to permit the applicant's representative an opportunity to demonstrate why the request could not comply with the ordinance.

Two cases were continued to the following month to permit the applicants' representatives an opportunity to submit required documents

Consultation with the town's attorney on a request for relief from an administrative decision revealed the New Hampshire Supreme Court was hearing a similar case. Working with the applicant and the town's attorney the final hearing in New Castle was delayed until the board could be guided by the decision of the Supreme Court. The event demonstrated how fortunate the board is to have a knowledgeable attorney available for guidance.

The 2008 cases included requests for the following:

Variances to exceed maximum building area, change to non-conforming lot, side yard setback - denied

Variance to requirements of side yard setback for remodel - approved

Variances to exceed maximum building area and construct within tidal buffer zone - approved

Special exception to construct residential dock - approved

Permit to construct roof dormer requiring variance to exceed maximum building area, exceed side yard setback exceed building height within tidal buffer - approved

Appeal from administrative decision of Historic District Commission to add two windows - denied (Request for rehearing - granted)

Variance in parking required for a general store permitted by Special Exception in mixed use district - granted

Special Exception to permit construction of a dock and variance to permit within setback from extension of property line - approved

Variance to permit rebuild of existing barn and add shed dormer within setback - approved

Request for appeal from administrative decision of Zoning Board of Adjustment - De Novo
Hearing of request from relief from decision of HDC - granted

Residents planning a project are advised to consult with the Building Inspector. Applications for Building Permits, Variances, Appeals from Administrative Decision and Special Exceptions and copies of the New Castle Ordinances are available at the Town Hall and provide requirements that must be met.

Applications to appear before the ZBA must be complete and requirements to appear before other boards (Conservation Commission, Historical District, etc.) must be met prior to appearing before the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Residents interested in serving on the Board of Adjustment are invited to attend meetings which are held as needed on the third Thursday of the month. Meetings are posted at the Town Hall and at the bulletin board next to the Post Office.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Stetson, Chair

Report Of The Historic District Commission

During 2008 the Historic District Commission (HDC) focused on the preservation and protection of the historic buildings and architectural landscape of the historic district, and the continuity of scale and architectural style of buildings in the district.

2008 brought a real slowdown in requests for approval from the HDC. Since July, we have met only 2 times to issue 3 certificates of approval. During the entire year of 2008, we issued 16 certificates of approval and turned down one. We have looked at a variety of issues, focusing mostly on window reconfigurations and shed renovations.

We have worked on several related issues. In March, we completed the rewrite of the HDC zoning ordinance, simplifying and restructuring it to eliminate duplication. This rewrite was approved at the May 2008 town meeting. A subcommittee of Peter Follansbee, Ned Robinson, Marj Smith and Nancy Borden was formed to write the rules and regulations. This is ongoing, although we have lost Ned Robinson's brief, wise counsel to the ZBA and the Planning Board.

It is with great regret that in June we saw the resignation of our chair, Diane Seagren, a longstanding member of the HDC, a calm, thoughtful voice of reason, gently reminding us to refer back to the HDC ordinance to guide our decisions.

I would like to thank the HDC board members for their commitment and seriousness with which they make decisions and Anita Colby for her assistance and guidance.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Borden, Chairwoman

Report Of The Conservation Commission

The Conservation Commission's primary responsibility is protecting and preserving the natural resources of the island. Educating Commission members and keeping residents up-to-date on State and Town environmental rules and regulations are other responsibilities.

The Conservation Commission is the first step in the town's process for reviewing applications for construction and/or landscaping projects within the shoreland or wetlands protected buffer areas. During 2008 the NCCC reviewed twelve wetlands applications and dealt with three wetlands violations

The Commission has initiated and completed two projects in 2008:

(1) A USDA grant helped fund the installation of the new culvert under Quarterdeck Lane, a project completed in December of 2008. The town now has a modern, more efficient culvert under the road. In addition, scientific predictions are that the increased flow of tidal waters will improve the health of the surrounding marsh areas. The lack of salt water in those marshes had allowed invasive plants, such as Phragmites, to thrive and overwhelm native vegetation.

(2) On the New Castle Common, the area between the Pitch Pine Restoration area and Bull Toad Pond was cleared and planted. A split rail fence was installed and native trees and shrubs were planted along the path that leads from the cemetery area to the beach. This project was funded by a Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) WHIP (Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program) grant.

Funding from another WHIP grant has allowed Commission members, volunteers from the Great Island Garden Club and town residents to continue to make headway in the battle against invasive plants, in particular the Oriental Bittersweet vine, which threaten to destroy the health of the Common.

The town's website is in the process of being updated and will soon have information concerning wetlands and shoreland applications. There will also be links to pertinent websites within the NH Department of Environmental Services (DES). This is especially important since DES's new Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act regulations went into effect as of July, 2008.

The ever-popular Green Waste Drop Off Days, held one Saturday a month, will start again this spring and continue through fall. Special thanks to Dave McGuckin for volunteering to staff and help organize these busy Saturday mornings. Watch for the colorful flyers posted around town to alert you about the dates.

And, of course, special thanks to all the hardworking Commissioners for their dedication and enthusiasm to the cause of protecting our island and our environment.
Finally – it’s ‘cool’ to be GREEN!

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Hume, Chairperson

Report Of The Public Works Water & Sewer

The responsibility of the Public Works Department is to manage all maintenance, administration, and capital expenditures relating to the water distribution system, as well as the sewer collection system that are owned by the town. The City of Portsmouth owns part of the water system; from the Wentworth Hotel down the Wentworth Road to the corner of Main Street. Properties situated within this area are billed directly by Portsmouth for their water usage.

The DPW Board is comprised of the following people who generously donate their time to the Town of New Castle: Peter Gamester, Walter Glidden, Chet Fessenden, John Ireland, Normand Houle, and Reggie Whitehouse.

Our superintendent of the Department of Public Works is Brad Mead and his assistant is Chris Pufahl. Both of these men have done an excellent job keeping our water department and sewer pump stations operating smoothly.

The following is part of the information that was provided to you along with your December water bill:

HOW WATER AND SEWAGE ARE MEASURED

Water meters measure in cubic feet and are billed in “units”. One unit of water = 748 Gallons. The minimum charge for water is 20 Units (14,960 Gallons).

Sewage rates are assessed against fresh water units, one-for-one. For those customers who receive fresh water directly from the Portsmouth system, but dispose of their sewage through the town’s system, we obtain water readings from Portsmouth to calculate the sewer bill.

HOW WATER AND SEWER ARE BILLED

Bills are issued every four months: April, August, and December. A “minimum charge” of 20 units applies to all accounts. Currently the minimum charge for water is \$34.80. The minimum charge for sewer (at 20 units) is \$68.84. Every unit beyond the minimum is charged \$1.74 for water and \$3.442 for sewer.

PENALTIES FOR LATE PAYMENT

Please refer to your copy of the information sheet that was sent to you in December, or you may obtain another copy at the Town Hall. The explanations are too lengthy to report here.

SEPARATE METER FOR OUTDOOR USE

Residents have the option of applying for a separate water meter for outdoor water usage. This can be for watering the lawn, washing vehicles, etc. Water pumped through this secondary meter will only be charged for the water used; not for sewer usage, since no sewer is involved in this venue. All costs for this separate meter are born by the applicant. Applications and full instructions are available at the Town Hall. An application must be filed and accepted prior to installing the second meter.

The 30 year sewer contract between New Castle and Portsmouth which into on February 22, 1978 has expired. Presently we are in negotiations with Portsmouth for a new contract. This may result in a higher sewer charge for residents of New Castle.

We are planning to make improvements on the existing water meter pit at the intersection of Wentworth Road and Main Street. This will prevent stagnation within the water distribution system under certain flow conditions. This improvement may cost approximately \$50,000. We are hoping that the Town will qualify for federal funds to pay for this necessary upgrade.

Just a reminder: Please make sure that no sump pumps are discharging into the town sewer, as this is a violation of Section 5 Paragraph H of the Sewer & Water Ordinance of the Town of New Castle. Please also be aware that it is a violation to discharge a sump pump so as to allow its water to reach the street. We appreciate your cooperation in both these matters.

Respectfully submitted,
Walter H. Liff
Chairman, Public Works Board

Building Official's Report

There were a total of 55 Building Permits issued during calendar year 2008 for various improvements, remodeling projects, additions, and 2 new homes, 1 of which was a replacement of an existing building.

Once again, we encourage the homeowner to ensure your contractor has obtained the necessary permits---before---starting work. As has been written numerous times in the Island Items, please fill out an Application for a Building Permit well in advance of actual planned commencement. Depending upon where you live in town, the Zoning Ordinance may require a hearing before the Historic District Commission, or you may need to apply to The Zoning Board of Adjustment to seek possible relief from some of those same regulations. You would also need permission from the NH State Wetlands Board and/or the provisions of the Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act if your planned construction is within 250' of the waters edge. The Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act has been around for many years but effective July 1st, 2008, the provisions have been vigorously enforced. There are other regulatory possibilities as well, that are beyond my direct control. Gaining permission from some of these boards can take at least a month, often much longer. If your project appears to be complicated, you may wish to obtain a current Zoning Ordinance book at the Town Hall. Start early, be patient, we can work our way through the process.

Your permit fee pays for review of your planned construction and various inspections. I encourage you to ensure your contractor has the Building Permit signed in the appropriate places before you make final payment. These inspections help to ensure the work was done properly and is safe.

A permit is not normally required for normal maintenance or repairs, or for improvements valued at under \$500. However, I continue to encourage you, or your contractor, to contact me at the Town Office (431-6710, ext 15) to alleviate some of the questions that are typically created by the observance of contractor vehicles in your driveway.

Be aware that items that are not easily portable (emergency generators as an example) are not allowed in the property set backs without a variance from the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Andy Schulte has been of tremendous help in being my deputy while I have been away on vacation. He is very well qualified and capable and the town is fortunate to have someone of his abilities in my absence. Thanks Andy.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles Petlick
Building Official

Report Of Trustees Of Trust Fund

The Town's Trust Funds totaled \$712,664 at fiscal year end 30 Jun 07 and \$911,335 at fiscal year end 30 Jun 08. These totals represent the sum of nine (9) separate funds representing permanent endowments, capital reserves and temporary escrows established by town meeting votes, school board votes, gifts and cemetery "Right to Inter" purchases. By State law the individual Trust Funds are maintained separately.

The Library earnings and some principal were disbursed to the Library Trustees. Earnings from the Cemetery Maintenance Trust Fund were transferred to principal in the Cemetery Maintenance Trust Fund. Funds from the other seven Trust Funds are disbursed in accordance with the requirements of the establishing body for the Trust Funds.

During the first three months of fiscal year 2008 the funds were invested in either Federal Agency bonds with short fixed terms, bond mutual funds or money market funds. For the remaining nine months the funds were invested in The Provident Bank CDs or money market accounts.

The Provident Bank continues to hold all of our Trust Funds. They remain a very conservative bank with zero exposure to the sub-prime market. All of our funds are insured. As of 30 Jun 08 97% of the funds were invested in CDs. The remaining 3% of the funds are invested in savings accounts. All of the CDs are five (5) year CDs that mature in Aug of 2012 with an interest rate of 5.25%. Savings accounts pay current money market rates. The return for FY 08 was 5.07%. We are forecasting a total return of approximately 5% for this fiscal year (FY 2009).

The three Trustees meet as required for investment or disbursement purposes.

Please call if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Cronin, Chair

Peter Reed

Mark Connolly

Road Race	Principal & income may be spent on authorized expenditures
Marchand	ONLY income may be spent on authorized expenditures
Marchand	Income transferred to Principal after 3 years as per will
Enterprise	Principal & income may be spent on authorized expenditures
Library	Principal & income may be spent on authorized expenditures
Cemetery	ONLY income may be spent on authorized expenditures
Special Ed	Principal & income may be spent on authorized expenditures
Conservation	Principal & income may be spent on authorized expenditures
School Tuition	Principal & income may be spent on authorized expenditures
Vehicle & Equip	Principal & income may be spent on authorized expenditures

Library Trustees' Report

"The reflections and histories of men and women throughout the world are contained in books...America's greatness is not only recorded in books, but it is also dependent upon each and every citizen being able to utilize public libraries."

—Terence Cooke (1921-1983)

During the past year, the library—under the direction of librarian Gene Fox—continued to provide a wide range of services to the New Castle community: printed, audio, and visual materials; programs for adults and children; and access to information via the internet. The Trustees of the Library would like to thank New Castle town residents for supporting our public library.

Highlights from the previous year include:

- Upgrading our internet service and awaiting the installation of our new server.
- Showcasing the work of local artists in exhibits throughout the library.
- Weeding and updating our book collection.
- Increasing our video library.
- Offering community movie nights throughout the summer.
- Hosting a Halloween party and magic show for children in October and a community Open House in December.
- Sponsoring evening programs, including a talk by resident Jenny Rosenson on the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and Jerry D'Etremont about area lighthouses.
- Transferring historical documents formerly housed in the Macomber Room to the Old Library Historical Museum.
- Sponsoring a Summer Reading Program for young readers in the community.
- Upgrading furniture in the Macomber Room.
- Providing materials and instruction to the children at Maude H. Trefethen elementary school on Wednesday afternoons and delivering books to the school to supplement the curriculum when requested.
- Hosting story hours for toddlers on Thursday and Saturday mornings.

We would like to thank Kareen and Peter Worrell for their generous financial contribution to the library, which will enable us to stay open later one evening per week beginning this summer. The support of the Smyser Family makes it possible for us to cultivate an excellent selection of children's books.

Our internet service is utilized by residents as well as island visitors throughout the year. In addition to the public terminals, the library offers wireless internet service. Patrons are welcome to bring their WI-FI enabled laptops to the library.

We continue to supplement our library collection through New Hampshire's interlibrary loan program. Please ask if you would like a book that is not in our collection.

The Trustees are currently revising our mission statement and goals to clarify our focus as a small town library and stay current with the changing role of libraries in this technological age.

The Trustees meet in the Macomber Room at the library monthly. Any resident of New Castle is welcome to attend. Meeting dates and times are posted at the library and Town Hall.

The library hours are:

Tuesdays 1-7, Wednesdays 1-5, Thursdays 9-3, Fridays 1-5, and Saturdays 9 -1.

We would like to thank our cadre of loyal volunteers who bring their energy and enthusiasm to the day-to-day working of the library. They are an invaluable resource.

In closing, we would like to express gratitude to our dedicated librarian Gene Fox for his years of commitment and service to the community. As he and his wife Paige move to San Diego, we wish them sunny skies and good fortune in their professional and personal endeavors. We will miss his calm presence and experienced wisdom in the library.

Respectfully submitted,
Patty Hickey, Chair of the Library Trustees
Brad Greeley, Treasurer
Joan Lockhart, Secretary
Christine Collins, alternate
Paula Carroll, alternate

Cemetery Trustees Report

Things are working well with our private contractor for the care of Riverside, Frost, and Marvin Cemeteries and we thank the New Castle Parks Department for providing care at Oceanside Cemetery. Jim Cerny joined the trustees, replacing Bill Lanham, who continues to advise us and share his 24 years of knowledge. The year 2008 was above average in burials, with 4 in Riverside and 6 in Oceanside. And it was above average in tree work, with two large sugar maples removed in Riverside. As a special event, we worked closely with Company D, Fifth Regiment, of the New Hampshire Volunteers from the Civil War to provide living history on Flag Day, culminating in a ceremony at Riverside.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Merrill, Chairman
Tom Boisvert
Jim Cerny

Archives & Records Report

I continue to work with the New Castle Historical Society's archivists, sharing our early records, photographs, and genealogical information for scanning into their computers. This enables an easier access to these items by the public. Also, the Historical Society generously provided to the town archives copies of many obituaries, of New Castle residents or family members, dating back as far as the 1920s, from their records. Obituaries provide detailed information about our citizens that is not necessarily in our vital statistics records. These items are filed in the 'family' folders, and are very helpful to genealogists.

The Historical Preservation Committee at the New Castle Congregational Church continues its work to place the Church building on the National Register of Historic Places. This is in addition to last year's honor of being placed on the New Hampshire Register of Historic Places. I serve on that committee with Elizabeth Rhoades Aykroyd, Douglas Aykroyd, Ruth Lanham, Clint Springer, and William Drew.

The Archives gratefully received copies of deeds and wills documenting the history of the "Roy" house on Wentworth Road, and dating its construction to about 1906-1907. If anyone else in town has done an historical search of his or her home here in New Castle, I would appreciate copies of these documents to add to our records. This information will assist future historians in their research endeavors.

As always, requests for genealogical searches, clarification of historic events, and assisting local writers keep this position interesting.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Hutchinson Schulte
Town Historian

Supervisors Of The Checklist Report

There were four elections in 2008 to keep the supervisors extra busy. The year opened with a Presidential Primary on January 8, with votes cast by 77% of New Castle's registered voters and 47 new voters registering at the Primary. Then the Town Election on May 13 was followed by the State Primary on September 9. Finally, the General Election, with an exciting presidential contest between Barack Obama and John McCain, brought out a record 90% of voters and 67 new registrations at the election.

All the elections ran smoothly, thanks to help from our capable volunteers who worked as ballot clerks at one or more of them: New Castle residents Marcia Cronin, Bill Duncan, Nancy Euchner, Nancy Gully, Darcy Horgan, Karen Mitchell, Carolyn Payzant, Janet Prince, Mary Robbins, Lorna Robinson, Ned Robinson, and Roddi Smith. If you would like to volunteer to help at an election, please let one of the supervisors know about your interest!

At the Town Election in May, Mary Rauh and Sherri Becker, who were serving as supervisors, were both elected to continuing terms. Mary was elected to complete a four year term, serving until 2012, and Sherri was elected to a six year term, serving until 2014.

In registering new voters, the supervisors follow election laws established by the State of New Hampshire. If you are interested in understanding our election laws, there is a great deal of information at the Secretary of State's web site: <http://www.sos.nh.gov/electionsnew.html>. New residents or first time voters may register with the town clerk during regular office hours. A photo ID and proof of residence is required to register. Registration may also be done at elections or with the supervisors of the checklist at posted sessions (see the checklist or watch legal notices in the newspaper). Changes to the checklist, such as party affiliation, address, or name, can also be made with the town clerk. A copy of the checklist is posted in the entry to the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Parker, Chair
Mary Rauh
Sherri Becker

Births Recorded In New Castle

January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2008

<u>Child's Name</u>	<u>Birth Date</u>	<u>Birth Place</u>	<u>Father's Name</u> <u>Mother's Name</u>
Landry, Sophia K.	04/05/2008	Portsmouth, NH	Landry, Richard Landry, Elizabeth
Russman, Max B.	07/23/2008	Portsmouth, NH	Russman, Ryan Russman, Nancy
Doherty, Kellyn Gene	05/02/2008	Lansing, KS	Doherty, Neil B. Brown, Dana L.

Deaths Recorded In New Castle

January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2008

<u>Name Of Deceased</u>	<u>Date Of Death</u>	<u>Place Of Death</u>
Alessi, Carlo	01/19/2008	Dover, NH
LaRose, Loring	01/27/2008	New Castle, NH
Tucker Jr., Richard	01/29/2008	Portsmouth, NH
Klotz, Louis	04/03/2008	New Castle, NH
Brigham, Germaine	04/05/2008	Portsmouth, NH
Wilson, Sewell	05/30/2008	Portsmouth, NH
Brown, George	06/06/2008	New Castle, NH
Clark Jr., Charles	09/20/2008	Portsmouth, NH
Bennett, Elizabeth	10/02/2008	New Castle, NH
Weeder, Dana	10/28/2008	Dover, NH
Quinn, Therese	11/23/2008	Portsmouth, NH
Drew, Linda	12/26/2008	New Castle, NH

Marriages Recorded In New Castle

January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2008

<u>Groom's Name</u> <u>And Address</u>	<u>Bride's Name</u> <u>And Address</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
Bush, Christopher C.	Mills, Joeana M.	03/24/2008	Concord, N. H.
Barnett, R. J.	Grennon, Michelle A.	09/05/2008	Concord, N. H.

Whaleback Lighthouse: Past and Future

By Jeremy D'Entremont - Operations Manager, Friends of Portsmouth Harbor Lighthouse

The first lighthouse on Whaleback Ledge, at the mouth of the Piscataqua River, was constructed in 1829–30. The 38-foot stone lighthouse was erected on a conical granite pier, 42 feet in diameter at the bottom and 32 feet at the top.

Storms in 1869 caused cracks in the lighthouse tower and its base, and Congress appropriated \$70,000 for a new lighthouse in July 1870. The new 50-foot tower was constructed of granite blocks dovetailed together in similar fashion to Minot's Ledge Light in Massachusetts and England's Eddystone Light. The laying of the last stone in August 1871 was followed by the installation of the lantern and other ironwork and the lighting apparatus. The new lighthouse went into service in 1872; the original lighthouse remained standing next to the new one for a few more years.

In the summer of 1878, a cast-iron tower was built just to the north of the 1872 lighthouse to serve as a fog signal house. The tower, about half as tall as the lighthouse, was surmounted by a long iron pipe and a third-class fog trumpet that emitted an eight-second blast every 30 seconds.

The fog signal tower was painted red for some years, and painting it was a precarious proposition for the keepers. In late June 1882, assistant keeper John Lewis fell from the tower as he was painting the apex of the pipe that held the foghorn. A tugboat transported him to shore, but he died from his injuries several days later at his home in Kittery.

A winter gale in 1886 sent waves smashing through a window of the tower, flooding the living quarters. Leander White, the principal keeper, displayed a blanket from the tower as a distress signal. Days passed before the seas were calm enough for two Kittery residents, Walter S. Amee and Samuel Blake, to reach Whaleback to rescue the occupants. The party's small boat then had trouble reaching Portsmouth Harbor, as the seas were still high. They were towed to safety by a steamer.

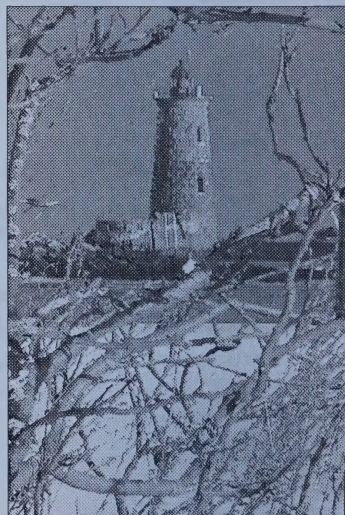
Walter S. Amee of Kittery, who had rescued Leander White a few years earlier, became principal keeper in 1893. Amee remained in charge until 1921. His first assistant keeper for most of those years was John Wetzel of Portsmouth, who held the position from 1897 to 1924. John Brooks of Kittery was the second assistant keeper from 1899 to 1915. The three men obviously had to have a congenial relationship in the confined quarters. At the time of a 1911 article, the men each spent four days on duty followed by two days onshore.

Arnold B. White of New Castle, New Hampshire, son of Leander White, succeeded Amee as principal keeper in 1921 and stayed for 20 years. He once explained his general philosophy of light-keeping to a reporter: "The government tolerates no excuses. You must anticipate trouble and have spare parts on hand at all times."

The light was automated and destaffed by the Coast Guard in early 1963. In late 2008, under the provisions of the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act, ownership of the lighthouse was transferred to the American Lighthouse Foundation (ALF) and its local chapter, the Friends of Portsmouth Harbor Lighthouse (FPHL).

A September 2007 inspection revealed much deterioration in the interior of the tower, including rusty ironwork and soft, spongy floors. It will be a challenge, but ALF and FPHL plan to restore the lighthouse over the next few years and to eventually open it for limited public tours.

Watch the local newspapers and FPHL's web site at www.portsmouthharborlighthouse.org for news of Whaleback-related events in New Castle, Portsmouth, and Kittery. For more information, you can also call FPHL at 603-431-9155.



New Castle Municipal Offices

DATE DUE			
<u>Self</u>			<u>ext 10</u>
Monday			o 2pm
Tuesday			-6198
<u>Town</u>			<u>ext 11</u>
Monday			o 6pm
Wednesday			o 2pm
<u>Tax</u>			<u>ext 10</u>
Wednesday			o 2pm
<u>Acc</u>			<u>ext 12</u>
Monday			o 2pm
<u>Li</u>			<u>6773</u>
Tuesday			o 7pm
Wednesday			o 5pm
Thursday	GAYLORD		PRINTED IN U.S.A. o 3pm
Friday			1 to 5pm
Saturday			9am to 1pm

Fire/EMT's - Emergency

911 or 436-2515

Business Line

436-1132

Fire Fax

430-0162

Police - Emergency

911 or 436-3113

Business Line

436-3800

Police Fax

436-7710

Building Inspector

431-6710 ext 15

All Town Boards

431-6710

Road Agent

431-6710 ext 13

Supr. Of Public Works/Common

431-6710 ext 13

New Hampshire State Library



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